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Letter dated 9 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On the occasion of the Security Council ministerial debate on counter-terrorism, to be held on 12 November, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Government of Japan outlining its positions on counter-terrorism (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yukio **Satoh**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 9 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Government of Japan on the occasion of the debate on counter-terrorism in the Security Council on 12 November 2001

In response to the terrorist attacks on the United States on 11 September, international efforts to combat terrorism are being strengthened in various fora, including the Security Council and the General Assembly. Japan intends to cooperate to the fullest extent with those efforts, in addition to taking its own initiatives in the fight against terrorism.

The position of Japan on the fight against terrorism has been detailed in its statements during the General Assembly debate under agenda item 166, "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", and on other occasions. We believe that the early ratification and faithful implementation of all 12 international anti-terrorism conventions and the prompt adoption of the two draft anti-terrorism conventions are important immediate goals. Japan, for its part, is already party to 10 of the anti-terrorism conventions. It intends to ratify the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, subject to the approval of the Diet, in the near future and, having signed the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, on 30 October, is currently undertaking domestic procedures for its early ratification.

Moreover, the Japanese Diet passed the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Bill on 29 October, which will allow the Self-Defence Forces to extend cooperation and carry out support and search and rescue activities, provide assistance to affected people and take other necessary measures in support of the activities of the armed forces of the United States and other countries which aim to eradicate the threat of terrorist attacks, thereby contributing to the achievement of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations.

Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 is of great significance in upgrading the capability of the international community to combat terrorism. Its early and steady implementation is therefore extremely important. In this connection, Japan highly appreciates the work to date of the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) and would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Bureau of the Committee, especially to its Chairman, Ambassador Greenstock.

Japan is vigorously undertaking domestic procedures to facilitate the smooth and prompt implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). In accordance with the basic thrust and objective of that resolution, we would like to stress the importance for Member States of coordinating their measures as far as possible to ensure the effective implementation of the counter-terrorism measures, including the freezing of assets. Japan intends to maintain a close link with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and would like to contribute to its discussions by producing constructive ideas and opinions. In addition, if a need for various forms of assistance arises during the course of the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) by Member States, Japan is prepared to consider providing such assistance in response to specific needs.